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COMMENTS OF SALLY NANCE, CEO OF EXCELSIOR SPRINGS HOSPITAL

Excelsior Springs Hospital is a not-for-profit government entity serving the people of Excelsior Springs and surrounding communities by providing quality health care across a continuum of care.

At the Excelsior Springs Hospital, we strive to provide patient care that is service-oriented, performance-based, and professional in an efficient and caring manner. We are committed to developing and administering health-related programs to meet the needs of our community. We are also committed to providing leadership in a collaborative process that includes planning, directing, coordinating and improving health care services that respond to patient/resident and community needs.

Commission Requests for Information

With regard to each of the specific issues that the Commission asked interested stakeholders to address, Sally Nance provides the following comments:

A. The safety, adequacy and reliability of Missouri's current electric infrastructure;

Excelsior Springs Hospital has provided quality health care to patients across Missouri's Northwest region. And just like any other company, our hospital simply cannot stay open for business without reliable electricity. Twenty-four hours a day, our medical providers rely on efficiently powered, life-saving technologies to deliver patient care.

I'm concerned that here in Missouri, where we get the majority of our power from aging coal plants, we're behind other states in reforming our electric regulatory model. We need to do more to make sure we have the most reliable infrastructure. We need to make sure our regulations aren't a barrier.

It's not just about reliability on the average day. For a hospital, some of our most important moments happen in times when the power is expected to go out. I think we need to make sure that our systems are as strong as they can be to protect against outages during major storms and other weather events. That's a safety issue for us, and for the families who have loved ones in our care.

We've also heard talk today about the changing needs of electric consumers. Certainly, our hospital is a prime example of those needs. We need reliable electricity to power CAT scans, servers that are maintaining electronic health records, ventilators and other vital medical equipment.

Every day, we serve some of the state's most vulnerable consumers. So I know well that we need to make sure that we have comprehensive consumer protection. I'm pleased to know that ISRS legislation includes continued full oversight from the Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC). We're going to regulate smarter under this legislation. And it's regulation that will benefit consumers.

For reliability, for cost predictability and for a growing Missouri economy, ISRS legislation is vital.